

Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 29 July 2008



- The Associated Press reports that excessive flooding in the Midwest destroyed tons of valuable topsoil throughout the region. Environmental groups say there are risks to opening up conservation program land to planting. (See item 12)
- According to the Associated Press, a road along Dillon Reservoir that Denver Water utility officials closed over security concerns, opened Friday to two-axle passenger and emergency vehicles, but will be closed from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. (See item <u>30</u>)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste;

Defense Industrial Base; Dams

Service Industries: Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping;

Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities

Sustenance and Health: <u>Agriculture and Food</u>; <u>Water</u>; <u>Public Health and Healthcare</u>

Federal and State: Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and

Icons

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED,

Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – [http://www.esisac.com]

1. July 28, Reuters – (Texas) Blast victims say BP Texas refinery still unsafe. BP Plc's giant refinery in Texas City, Texas, remains unsafe three years and \$1 billion in safety upgrades after a blast killed 15 people there, an expert said on Monday in a report prepared for victims of the blast. "The continuing violations of federal law are critical to plant safety. They are life-threatening," an engineer wrote in a report filed with a U.S. District on behalf of victims contesting a plea deal between London-based BP and the U.S. government. The victims, including workers injured by the blast and relatives of those who died, contend that the proposed \$50 million fine does not properly punish a company that had earnings in 2007 of \$17.3 billion. BP responded to the report with a statement that said the refinery has complied with audits done by independent experts as

required by the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA). The agency slapped the company with a \$21.3 million fine, the largest ever issued by OSHA. Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2816713020080728

- 2. July 28, Reuters (Louisiana) La. refinery ops normal despite Miss. River spill. Louisiana refineries said operations were normal on Monday despite a fuel oil spill on the Mississippi River that has cut the waterway's heavy traffic to a trickle between the Gulf of Mexico and New Orleans. ConocoPhillips, Exxon Mobil Corp, Motiva Enterprises LLC and Valero Energy Corp, which operate some of the state's largest refineries up the Mississippi from New Orleans, said limited traffic, which began over the weekend, had eased worries they might have to cut output. A ConocoPhillips spokesman said the company is doing some maintenance at the Belle Chasse refinery that is unrelated to limitations on Mississippi River traffic, but could not provide further details. The four companies operate refineries in Baton Rouge, Belle Chasse and Norco, Louisiana, with a combined refining capacity of 1.2 million bpd, or about 40 percent of the state's total capacity. More than 180 ships and barges were awaiting U.S. Coast Guard permission to move along the Mississippi River on Monday, the Coast Guard said Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN28238120080728
- 3. July 27, Reuters (Texas) Total restarts 9 units at Port Arthur refinery-state. Total Petrochemicals USA was restarting nine units at its 232,000 barrel per day (bpd) Port Arthur, Texas, refinery on Sunday, according to a notice filed with state pollution regulators. The restart of units 804, 805, 810, 819, 822, 823, 824, 825 and 836 began Sunday morning and was expected to take until Thursday morning, according to a notice filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The units were shut on July 9 for reasons unstated in notices with the commission. On July 10, traders told Reuters one of the units was a reformer and all of the units were taken down because of poor refining margins.

Source:

http://uk.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idUKN2743658920080727

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

4. July 28, Associated Press – (Missouri) Ameren applies for new nuclear plant in Mo. AmerenUE applied Monday to federal nuclear regulators for a license to build and operate a potential new nuclear power plant in Callaway County, Missouri. The St. Louis-based utility filed an 8,000-page license application with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a reactor adjacent to Ameren's existing nuclear facility, the Callaway Plant, outside of Fulton. Ameren said it has not decided to build a second

nuclear plant, but wanted to preserve that option if the need arose. Also, applying now puts Ameren in a position to seek federal loan guarantees and production tax credits created by the federal energy law of 2005. AmerenUE's president said greater demand for power in Missouri in the next two decades will require the utility to have a large generating plant online by 2018. The company said it hopes to decide by 2010 whether to proceed with the plant. Earlier this month, a second nuclear reactor at AmerenUE's Callaway plant was the focus of an NRC-hosted public forum in Fulton. Advocates touted Callaway's safety record and a jobs windfall from a second plant. Opponents said they want Ameren Corp., the utility's corporate parent, to more aggressively pursue alternative and renewable energy options.

Source: http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9273VA80.htm

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. July 28, Northrop Grumman Corp. – (National) Northrop Grumman successfully demonstrates Multi-Function Electronic Warfare system. Northrop Grumman Corporation recently completed the land-based test phase of the Multi-Function Electronic Warfare (MFEW) system at the Naval Research Lab's (NRL) Chesapeake Bay Detachment (CBD) in Chesapeake Beach, Maryland, as part of the Office of Naval Research (ONR) MFEW/ES program. The final demonstration capped off over seven months of test and evaluation against key performance requirements established for the new DDG 1000 Zumwalt-class destroyers. "The tests performed at CBD demonstrated the ability to track simulated threats while the antenna array pitched and rolled at Sea State 5. This creates a worst case scenario for the already difficult problem of performing precision direction finding on a surface ship. The Northrop Grumman MFEW design utilizes digital receiver technology and advanced processing to detect and classify a wide variety of signal types to meet operational requirements in a tactically relevant environment," said the vice president of Northrop Grumman's Radio Frequency Combat and Information Systems business unit. The next steps for Northrop Grumman's MFEW system include at-sea testing onboard a U.S. Navy ship as part of the RIMPAC / TAPA II exercise this summer followed by a return to CBD for further integration with the Advanced Multi-Function RF Concept test bed.

Source: http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/northrop-grumman-successfully-demonstrates-multi-function/story.aspx?guid=%7BF3174214-1000-4A05-8AEF-3B67786FE452%7D&dist=hppr

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. July 27, Scotsman – (International) Banks warned of computer 'super bug' that can change identity. United Kingdom banks and other financial institutions are being warned to be extra vigilant following the release on the internet of a new so-called "PC super bug" designed to steal online banking log-on details on an unprecedented scale. Cyber criminals have let loose a virus called Limbo 2 Trojan, which, according to

security experts, is an extremely nasty bug developed specifically to worm its way into finance websites in order to cause maximum damage. Security firm Prevx said the difference this time is that the new bug has been developed specifically to evade the vast majority of anti-virus computer systems. Such systems are devised by global IT security firms including McAfee, Symantec, and AVG. Finance houses all over the world rely on them to provide adequate protection. It is estimated that a single data breach can cost a big firm more than £3m to rectify. Prevx reported that the Trojan bug features a changeable shell with a pliable cloak coming in many guises and variants to try to fool security systems and slip past conventional signature-based anti-virus detection. This involves illegal technology that generates fake information boxes on a compromised computer, asking the user to enter more information than usual. While this is happening, passwords, credit card information and other personal details are transmitted to the malware's criminal operator to then exploit financially.

Source: http://business.scotsman.com/bankinginsurance/Banks-warned-of-computer-39super.4328710.jp

7. July 25, New York Times – (National) New York sues UBS for securities fraud. The attorney general of New York accused UBS of consumer and securities fraud on Thursday, saying the bank had misled investors when it sold them auction-rate securities. Auction-rate securities are preferred shares or debt instruments with rates that reset regularly, usually every week, in auctions overseen by the brokerage firms that originally sold them. But the \$300 billion market for these instruments collapsed in February, trapping investors who had been told that they were safe and easy to cash in. Even as a senior executive at UBS called the market "a complete loser," the bank continued to pitch the securities as short-term, liquid investments, according to the civil complaint filed by the attorney general of New York. At the same time, seven executives at the bank sold their personal holdings of the securities, which totaled \$21 million, to avoid losses, according to the complaint. UBS halted the auctions of these securities on February 13, leaving more than 50,000 UBS customers holding about \$37 billion in the investments, according to the complaint. These investors, including city governments, companies, individual investors, remain unable to sell them in many cases.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/25/business/25rate.html?_r=1&em=12171312 00&en=dc443400c043b5bb&ei=5087%0A&oref=slogin

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Transportation Sector

8. July 28, Press Association – (National) US warned of oxygen tank danger. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) air-worthiness directive, issued in April and effective in May, followed a report that certain oxygen cylinder supports in Boeing 747-400s may not have been properly heat-treated, which the FAA said could cause oxygen leakage and subsequent fire hazards. Australian authorities say investigators are focusing on an oxygen bottle missing from the cargo hold of the Qantas 747-400 that was ripped open at 29,000 feet over the South China Sea on Friday. The plane, which was carrying more than 350 people, made an emergency landing in the Philippines.

Sydney-based Qantas Airways was ordered to urgently inspect every oxygen bottle aboard its fleet of 30 Boeing 747s, which is expected to take several days. The FAA directive was originally issued in 2006 and reissued in April to include planes imported into the U.S. by American carriers. It requires all airlines carrying Boeing 747-400 series aircraft to inspect the support brackets of the oxygen cylinders to determine their manufacturing date and perform any necessary corrective action.

Source: http://ukpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5itGWyIdPgy2tJOTV xPQG9cTifN

9. July 28, Associated Press – (Maryland) Plane makes emergency landing at BWI. A Southwest Airlines spokeswoman said smoke from a faulty cockpit fan and not a fire prompted Flight 121 to return to Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Thurgood Marshall Airport shortly after takeoff Sunday. The Southwest spokeswoman said the fan was changed after landing and the flight to Norfolk, Virginia, was expected to takeoff again later Sunday afternoon. A BWI spokeswoman had originally said the plane returned due to a cockpit fire. The plane landed without incident, and no one was injured.

Source: http://www.abc2news.com/content/news/breaking/story.aspx?content_id=e313 7bc7-74a5-4a86-bad6-a75312ffd877

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Postal and Shipping Sector

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Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

10. July 28, Injury Board – (National) Jalapeños linked to salmonella outbreak traced back to farm in Mexico. Jalapeño peppers linked to more than 1,200 illnesses have been traced back to a farm in Mexico. According to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), consumers should avoid raw jalapeno peppers from Mexico. However, the FDA is advising consumers that jalapeño and serrano peppers grown in the United States are not connected with the current Salmonella St. Paul outbreak and consumers may feel free to eat them without concern of contamination. Mexico has continued to deny the claims made by FDA officials, saying that the officials lacked scientific evidence to confirm the contamination. The Mexican Agriculture minister urged officials to wait to make their public announcements until the investigations of jalapeños are finished in both countries. The salmonella outbreak has spread to more than 1,294 people in 43 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada since mid-April, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. At least 242 people have been hospitalized.

Source: http://bentonville.injuryboard.com/miscellaneous/jalapeos-linked-to-salmonella-outbreak-traced-back-to-farm-in-mexico.aspx?googleid=244560

- 11. July 28, Associated Press (California) Farm animal rights law would require room to roam. This fall, California voters will consider the most comprehensive farm animal rights law in the country, a measure that would ban cramped metal cages for egg-laying hens, metal gestation crates for pregnant sows, and veal crates for lambs. Earlier this year, the Colorado legislature became the first in the nation to prohibit the use of gestation crates for pregnant pigs and veal crates for calves. In the last three years, Florida and Oregon voters have banned gestation crates and Arizona voters banned both gestation crates and veal crates. A showdown between proponents and opponents of the California measure, initiated by the Humane Society of the United States, looms. The United Egg Producers and the Pacific Egg & Poultry Association say the measure would threaten the health of hens and eggs, since hens allowed to roam free might contract avian diseases from exposure to the outside or their own droppings. Moreover, the cost would be so prohibitive it would force an end to the egg industry in California as of 2015, when the initiative would go into effect, the group says. An independent report by The Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production recommended several changes in the way animals are raised for food in the United States, including the phasing out of so-called battery cages that keep the hens cramped. In February, an undercover video shot by investigators at a slaughterhouse in Chino showed cows too sick to walk or even stand being kicked, beaten, dragged, and prodded with forklifts in order to force them to slaughter. The video led to the closure of the plant and, because of concerns of sick cows spreading disease, the largest beef recall in U.S. history. Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080728/ap on re us/farm scene animal welfar <u>e</u>
- 12. July 27, Associated Press (Midwest) Floods strip Midwest of tons of valuable topsoil. The flooding that swamped large areas of the Midwest took with it some of the region's most valuable resource: soil. Erosion robs farmers of the nutrient-rich topsoil their growing plants need. The floods may have caused up to \$3 billion in crop losses in Iowa and \$800 million in crop damage in Indiana, according to estimates from agriculture secretaries in those states. In Wisconsin, flooding damaged about \$2.8 million worth of conservation structures such as dams, levees, ditches, and waterways, said a farm conservationist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service in Madison, Wisconsin. Some land in Illinois is still submerged. It is also an issue downstream, where sediment diminishes water quality. Scientists think the "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico, oxygen-depleted water off the Texas-Louisiana coast that cannot support marine life, is likely to be worse this year partly because of the flood runoff. The conversion of row-crop land to pastures over the last 20 years in northern Missouri also has helped conserve the precious few inches of top soil left in that part of the state, said the head the state's soil and water conservation program. The Farm Service Agency's Conservation Reserve Program, a two billion dollar-a-year federal program, pays farmers not to plant crops, instead returning land to its native state and saves an estimated 450 million tons of soil each year. Environmental groups say there are risks to opening up conservation program land to planting. Marginal land planted with ground cover or trees acts as a natural flood barrier, said the director of agricultural policy for the Environmental Defense Fund. Planting crops could mean less protection against floods, she said.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080727/ap_on_sc/flooding_soil_erosion

13. July 27, Leader-Telegram – (Wisconsin) More consumers are purchasing organic meat. These days, with skyrocketing food prices, stories about animal cruelty at corporate farms and food disease outbreaks, many consumers are turning to organic foods. In particular, many people are turning to organic meats. In 2007, there were 918 certified organic farms in Wisconsin – a number second only to California. The number of certified organic farms in Wisconsin has been growing for the past few years. From 2006 to 2007, the number of certified organic farms increased by 111 in the state; the number continues to grow. In the past three years, the number of farms certified in Wisconsin has increased by 29 percent and the number of raw meat processors has increased 79 percent, according to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. Along with the certified farms in the state, several noncertified farms follow organic farming and free-range practices, in which livestock and poultry freely graze or forage for food.

Source: http://www.leadertelegram.com/story-features.asp?id=BH8FDKQ3ECE

14. *July 25, Imperial Valley News* – (California) California firm recalls beef cheek product - possible E. coli contamination. Beef Packers, Inc., a Fresno, California firm, is recalling approximately 1,560 pounds of beef cheek products because they may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced today. The following products are subject to recall: 30-pound boxes of "Cargill Meat Solution Corporation, Beef Cheek Meat - SM BX." These boxes of beef cheek meat products bear the establishment number "EST. 354" and a "Packed on" date of "07/02/08," ink-jet printed on the label, however, the product was intended for further processing or for packaging as raw beef cheek meat and will likely not bear the establishment number "EST. 354" on products available for direct consumer purchase. These beef cheek products were shipped to distributors in Fresno, Modesto, Santa Rosa, and Vernon, California.

 $\underline{\text{http://www.imperialvalleynews.com/index.php?option=com_content\&task=view\&id=2}}\\170\&Itemid=2$

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Water Sector

Source:

15. *July* 28, *TriCities* – (Virginia) **Deforestation caused by insect pest threatens town** water supply. The woolly adelgid, which has been a nuisance for much of the Appalachian region, is quickly becoming a public utility problem for Big Stone Gap, Virginia. The insect infests hemlock trees, feeding on their sap needle by needle, and – within three or four years for most trees – causes them to die. Eastern hemlocks line a creek that carries the town's water supply from the its reservoir to a water treatment plant, and if the tiny parasite kills the trees, the costs to treat daily the 2.2 million gallons of water used by residents would skyrocket, said the chairman of the town council's Public Utilities Committee. The chairman foresees four problems the town could face if the hemlocks around the stream are lost. The creek will lose its shade and the increased

sunlight will raise the water temperature, which causes treatment to be more difficult; fallen trees will narrow the creek, causing it to flow faster; the decaying trees will increase the water's turbidity, causing the need for more treatment; and streambed washouts will be more probable. Biological solutions, which would wipe out the pest by introducing a predator species, are still in development, while chemical solutions either would cause more issues or are expensive, said the environmental director of the Clinch Coalition, a local organization committed to protecting plants and animals in the Jefferson National Forest.

Source: http://www.tricities.com/tri/news/local/article/deforestation_caused_by_insect_pest_threatens_towns_water_supply/12057

16. July 28, Science Daily – (National) Nanoparticles in sewage could escape into bodies of water. In a conventional sewage works, nanoparticles should really be bound in the sludge and should not represent a major problem in the aqueous effluent. This is not true, however, as shown by a new study of the ceramic model material cerium dioxide. An astonishing amount was able to leave an experimental sewage works and thus could possibly enter bodies of water. The industry needs large amounts of cerium dioxide (CeO₂) to grind computer components and mobile phone camera lenses or the lasers in CD players. A new study by the research group led by an assistant professor at the Institute for Chemical and Bioengineering shows the majority of the cerium dioxide particles do bond to the surface of bacteria in the sewage sludge and can thus be removed from the water. However, far more particles than was assumed are able to pass through the biological separation stage. The professor stresses that, "The particles disperse astonishingly well and do not agglomerate entirely as was assumed." The bacteria living in the activated sludge involuntarily share responsibility for this dispersion. However, these anti-clumping agents and other components of the aqueous effluent also stabilize the nanoparticles. Thus a proportion of the material is not sufficiently agglomerated and can leave the sewage works practically unchanged. Source: http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/07/080724221823.htm

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

- 17. *July 28, Reuters* (National) **Fresh bird flu outbreak in Nigerian poultry.** An outbreak of the H5N1 bird flu virus has been found in two Nigerian poultry markets, the first discovery in almost 10 months in Africa's most populous nation, the agriculture ministry said on Monday. The agriculture director for the livestock department said the infected chickens and ducks were located last week in the northern cities of Kano and Katsina. "Immediate actions have already been taken to control the outbreak. The affected farms are being depopulated and disinfected," he said.
 - Source: http://in.reuters.com/article/health/idINL863202420080728
- 18. *July* 28, *Associated Press* (National) **Regulation of 'off-label' drug use needs improvement, report says.** It can take up to a year for a pharmaceutical company to correct unapproved use of one of its drugs, according to a U.S. government report prepared for Congress. According to the Associated Press, the practice of "off-label" use

of drugs, using them to treat diseases or conditions for which they were not approved, has long been a "gray area of medical practice." The report prepared by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that it can take an average of seven months for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to issue a warning to the drug company. Then, according to the GAO report, it can take another four months before any corrective action is taken. An associate professor of medicine at the Stanford Prevention Research Center cautioned in an editorial in the April 3, 2008 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine that "off-label prescribing has become first-line therapy even in the absence of strong evidence of benefits and safety."

Source: http://www.ajc.com/health/content/shared-auto/healthnews/prss/617853.html

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Government Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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Emergency Services Sector

19. *July 26*, *Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Public safety aid cut; state gets \$17.2m.** The Department of Homeland Security has announced \$17.2 million in federal assistance for Massachusetts, a 15 percent decrease from last year. State public safety officials were aware the cut was coming. The Public Safety and Security Secretary said yesterday that a streamlined state strategy focuses on what first-responders and cities and towns need. Among the specific areas where the state will direct the new funds: enhancing preparedness for a chemical, biological, or radioactive explosion and improving coordination between bomb squads and other first-responders. The state also plans to enhance its preparation and response to a pandemic influenza outbreak. Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/07/26/public_safety_aid_cut_state_gets_172m/

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Information Technology

20. *July* 28, *BBC* – (International) **China becomes biggest net nation.** China now has the world's largest net-using population, say official figures. More than 253 million people in the country are now online, according to statistics from the China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC). The figure is higher than the 223 million that the U.S. mustered in June, according to Nielsen Online. Net penetration in the U.S. stands at 71 percent compared to 19 percent in China, suggesting it will eventually vastly outstrip the U.S. The development is significant because the U.S. has had the largest net-using population since people started recording how many people were online. The 2008 figure is up 56 percent in a year, said CNNIC. Analysts expect the total to grow by

about 18 percent per annum and hit 490 million by 2012. About 95 percent of those going online connect via high-speed links. Take up of broadband has been boosted by deals offered by China's fixed line phone firms as they fight to win customers away from mobile operators. China's mobile phone-using population stands at about 500 million people.

Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7528396.stm

Chinese hackers are sending out malware masquerading as the Trend Micro Virus Clean Tool, according to Trend. The example in the linked Trend blog is in Chinese, so

21. July 27, PC Magazine – (International) Beware fake malware cleaner programs.

perhaps the threat is only real in China and Taiwan. But the example is instructive. The threat arrives as an e-mail which looks like it came from Trend Micro and the malware comes as an attachment to it. The use of an attachment is by itself unusual, as malware distribution has largely moved to using links to hijacked web sites where the malware is hosted. The Trend blog says the attachment is named iClean 20. EXE, but the screen shot of the e-mail shows it as a .RAR file which probably itself contains iClean20.EXE. iClean 20.EXE drops two files, one of which is the genuine Trend Virus Clean Tool, and the other the malware, detected by Trend as BKDR_POISON.GO. By pointing the user to the actually cleaning tool they may distract them from the malware.

BKDR_POISON.GO opens a random port and allows a remote user to execute commands on the affected system.

Source:

http://blogs.pcmag.com/securitywatch/2008/07/beware_fake_malware_cleaner_pr.php

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: http://www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/.

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Communications Sector

22. July 28, Computerworld – (California) City missed steps to avoid network lockout. A San Francisco city official lost administrative control of the network's routers and switches for more than a week after an IT worker allegedly reset passwords and refused to reveal them prior to and after his arrest on July 13. A network administrator in the city's Department of Telecommunications and Information Services (DTIS) was charged with locking up the network and with planting network devices that enabled illegal remote access to the network. The FiberWAN system carries almost 60 percent of the city government's traffic. Users and analysts interviewed last week said that the city could have avoided the recent turmoil by implementing stronger configuration management techniques along with processes that could quickly detect when someone was attempting to bypass network controls. A senior network engineer at DataWare Services suggested that anytime it takes more than 48 hours to restore access to a

locked-down network that indicates that "basic network administration standards" are not in place.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=network_security&articleId=322799&taxonomyId=142&intsrc=kc_top

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Commercial Facilities Sector

- 23. July 28, Associated Press (Tennessee) Man charged in Tenn. church shooting that killed 2. Authorities were investigating why an apparent stranger entered Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church and opened fire during a children's performance of "Annie." The man killed two including a man witnesses called a hero for shielding others from gunfire. Seven others were wounded Sunday at the Unitarian church and attendees tackled the gunman. The gunman has been charged with first-degree murder in the shooting and was held on one million dollar bail, according to city spokesman. No children were harmed at the church. Members said they dove under pews or ran from the building when the shooting started. Five of those injured were in critical or serious condition at a hospital Sunday. Two others were treated and released. The FBI was assisting in case the shooting turned out be a hate crime, the Police chief said. Source: http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5jOAQKzY-aOBqDspFkEAV_ZO65vZAD926SHLO0
- 24. *July 27, NYI New York* (New York) **Police investigating mailed bomb threat.** Police continued to investigate Sunday a possible bomb threat mailed to New Yorkers in the form of a party invitation. Police say on Friday three people received post cards warning of bombings in the Financial District. Investigators say there is no indication of actual terrorist activity. The cards read, "You're invited to a party so put on a happy face." They go on to say, "Bombs! Bombs! Bombs! Lower Manhattan, July, August, September." The cards are signed "New York Jihad." All three cards were postmarked from Brooklyn. Police say they appear to have been made on a desktop computer and printed at home.

Source: http://www.ny1.com/ny1/content/index.jsp?stid=1&aid=84235

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

25. *July* 27, *Associated Press* – (Georgia) Carter's new flight, over Ga. Dams, a familiar one. President Carter assailed a plan to build three dams to provide water for drought-

stricken Georgia, freshly picking a fight he won three decades ago as governor. The proposal has resurfaced amid the historic drought, with Georgia congressmen, backed by real estate agents and business groups, claiming the dams could help guarantee water for Georgia for decades to come. The dams would be built along the Flint, which winds more than 200 miles from the south Atlanta suburbs into the Gulf of Mexico. The river already has two small dams, but state representatives are encouraging the Army Corps of Engineers to complete a study of whether the bigger dams can be built. Atlanta's main water supply, Lake Lanier, is at record low levels and there's no end in sight to the 18-year-old legal battle between Georgia, Alabama, and Florida over how much water can be stored in north Georgia lakes.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080727/ap on re us/carter dams; ylt=AneT16k mU6HzBjR0UwqwkuOs0NUE

26. July 27, Associated Press – (Arkansas) Public tours resume at huge Arkansas hydroelectric plant. Public tours at one of the largest dams in the southeastern United States have resumed — but on a limited basis because of continuing security concerns after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The powerhouse at Bull Shoals Dam was among the first hydroelectric plants of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct regularly scheduled tours since the attacks nearly seven years ago, a district spokesman said. The dam was one of the largest engineering projects ever undertaken when construction began in 1947 — initially just for flood control. The Bull Shoals Dam stretches 2,256 feet across the river, rises 256 feet from the streambed and holds about 2.1 million cubic yards of concrete. The powerhouse has eight electric generators, where other dams in the region typically have two or four generators, the corps' operations manager who oversees the dam said. The Southwest Power Administration of the Department of Energy markets the power wholesale to utility companies in the southwest.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080727/ap_on_re_us/carter_dams;_ylt=AneT16kmU6HzBjR0UwqwkuOs0NUE

27. July 26, KPNX 12 Phoenix – (Arizona) Florence residents fear dam is vulnerable. The Magma Dam is classified by the state to be at "an unsafe elevated risk." A public report disclosure contained information from the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR). According to ADWR, an "unsafe elevated risk" means "safety deficiencies in a dam or spillway could result in failure of the dam with subsequent loss of human life or significant property damage." An official of the Magma Flood Control District says residents will pay fees over the next several years to fund a significant portion of the repairs. The total cost of the repairs will be about 4 million dollars, a district official said.

Source: http://www.azcentral.com/12news/news/articles/2008/07/26/20080726florenced am07262008-CR.html

28. *July 26, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Task force to suggest new plans for levees.** A new panel will look at whether some flood plains should be given back to Mother Nature and how the nation should rebuild its levees. Of importance to Iowans, socked by record floods last month, will be the debate over what to do with makeshift levees. The

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is pulling together a broad assortment of federal agencies and state representatives to guide the work. Iowa's environmental protection chief, said the task force is a welcome tool to help sort through the tough questions about which levees should be removed, or fixed - and, importantly, how they will be maintained and inspected. The new Interagency Levee Task Force came about so the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Federal Emergency Management Agency could address the fallout of June flooding.

Source: http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080726/NEW803/807260343/1001/

29. July 26, Reporter-Times – (Indiana) Ozark to breach dam, drain lake. The June 7 rainstorm and floods damaged several homes in Morgan County, but also damaged infrastructure, including three area dams, one of which will be breached and decommissioned. An assessment of more than 100 privately owned dams by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in June showed three Morgan County dams required emergency action after flooding swamped the area. Lower Spring Lake dam, the Ozark Fish Hatchery dam and Loudermilk dam, also known as the Falcon Crest dam, made the DNR's list requiring emergency action. State officials expect Lower Spring Lake and Falcon Crest dams to be repaired, but the 1940s-era Ozark Fish Hatchery dam on Cramer Road will be breached, and the dam decommissioned, according to state and company officials.

Source: http://www.reporter-times.com/stories/2008/07/26/news.qp-5645039.sto

30. July 25, Associated Press – (Colorado) Dillon Dam road reopens. A road along Dillon Reservoir that Denver Water utility officials closed over security concerns reopened Friday with some restrictions, thanks to a compromise reached with Summit County officials. County officials had complained that Denver Water closed the road to the dam with little notice on July 9. They said barriers placed across the road impeded emergency access for ambulances and fire trucks. Representatives of Summit County emergency agencies and governments filed a lawsuit over Denver Water's move July 11, and a judge referred the matter to mediation. On Friday, both sides agreed the Dillon Dam Road would be open to two-axle passenger vehicles and emergency vehicles but will be closed from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Denver Water agreed to pay for officers to be stationed at each end of the dam to enforce vehicle restrictions. Trailers, RVs, and trucks that are more than 13,000 pounds will not be allowed, but emergency vehicles will have full access. In the long-term, Denver Water said, an alternate road may be needed to connect one side of the reservoir to the other without going across the dam.

Source: http://www.myfoxcolorado.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=7067016 &version=3&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1

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